BILL: **S2017-SB14**

TITLE: **Student Advisory Committee Bill**

SPONSOR: **Angie McCarthy, Wonnacott Senator**

DATE: **April 30, 2017**

Whereas there exists significant student dissatisfaction regarding academic advising at Middlebury,

Whereas a variety of students choose not to actively make use of faculty advising systems to guide their College careers,

Whereas the role of the faculty advisor is currently ambiguous and not standardized across departments,

Whereas individual students and faculty members experience the advising relationship differently due to differences in advising strategies and social identities,

Whereas the College Handbook already prescribes that "each academic department and program that offers a major" have Student Advisory Councils,

Therefore, be it resolved:

1. That every academic department with an existing Student Advisory Council expand the functions of its elected/selected students to include informal advising which is:

i. Particularly for first- and second-year September and February admit students either newly declared in a major and/or simply interested in a certain department and/or its course offerings
ii. Intended to be casual, efficient, and relevant to the specific questions or pointed curiosity of advisees
iii. Limited in scope to information and guidance not already covered by a student's official advisor

2. That departments make the contact information of elected or volunteer upperclass students available through their individual website, such that students can easily direct inquiries, and faculty advisors can make referrals to these Council members

3. That departments ensure the contacts listed on their website reflect the current Student Advisory Council or similar advising body

4. That academic departments lacking or not utilizing a Student Advisory Council select an appropriate number of third- or fourth-year students each year to serve in analogous roles, and post up-to-date contacts accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie McCarthy, Wonnacott Senator
The SGA Student Educational Affairs Committee

Vote Count

In favor:	President Toy, Senator Lantigua, Senator Cohen, Senator Pustejovsky, Senator Wilson, Senator Waddell, Senator Duran, Senator Fleischer, Senator Aaron, Senator Goldfield, Senator Hayes, Senator Ou, Senator Wright, Senator McCormick, Senator Andrews, Senator McCarthy, Co-Chair Sanderson
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

S2017-SB14 passes 17-0-0